

Wave

A publication
for the Long Beach community
made possible by
Long Beach Gas & Oil

June/July 2006

Vol. 68

www.longbeach.gov



Free Concerts In City Parks This Summer!

Please Participate – Budget Development Fiscal Year 2007

Long Beach's economic and social upheavals created a financial crisis in city government whose resolution is a remarkable success story - and perhaps a lesson for politicians in Sacramento." Dan Walters, Sacramento Bee Columnist, 02/07/06

The City of Long Beach invites you to help steer the City toward a stable fiscal future by participating in the FY 07 (Fiscal Year October 1, 2006 – September 31, 2007) Budget development process. There will be numerous opportunities for you to share your thoughts and ideas throughout the summer at various public meetings.

One of those public meetings is the 4th Annual Budget Summit. It will be held on Saturday, July 8, 9:00 a.m., at The Grand, 4101 East Willow St. This meeting will be one of many opportunities for public input as the City solves the last \$10 million of the General Fund structural deficit. Presentations will be made on the City's current financial situation, and the proposed budget for FY 2007. You will have an opportunity to ask questions of the City's elected leaders, the City Manager and Department Directors.

Over the last three years, significant progress has been made to address the structural deficit in the City's General Fund. Under City Council leadership, a Financial Strategic Plan was implemented, resulting in \$92 million in structural deficit solutions over the past three years. Collaborative decisions to reduce the deficit included the removal of more than 250 vehicles from the City's fleet;

elimination of more than 400 City positions without layoffs; closing City Hall East; and restructuring City's operations such as Code Enforcement and Workers' Compensation. Resulting service impacts include the reduction of library hours by 20-30 percent and a 35 percent decrease in the Library's book, media and electronic materials budget. The City also instituted a hiring freeze and deferred funding for departmental facility maintenance. At the same time, investments in the City's infrastructure were made, including critical residential street repairs and the addition of 15 new police officers during FY 06.

The City is developing solutions to address the remaining \$10 million structural deficit. This coming fiscal year will require that difficult decisions be made in order to balance the City's budget, while maintaining essential community services. Increasing fees to support current services, and making further service and program cuts will likely be required to balance the FY 07 Budget.

The City welcomes your ideas on how to balance the FY 07 Budget. Please plan on attending this year's Budget Summit and the various community meetings scheduled throughout the summer. For more information on the current Budget, Financial Strategic Plan, and dates for upcoming public meetings, please visit www.longbeach.gov/finance/budget, or call 570.6425. You can also register for instant City Budget and Financial updates via the City's e-notify email notification system at www.longbeach.gov/enotify.



A Message from Long Beach Gas & Oil – Call Before You Dig

Protect yourself. Protect your property. Before you dig, dial 800.227.2600. Why is it important for you to call before you dig? Beneath the surface of the ground are pipe lines carrying gas and oil, water, sewage and cable. If you do not know exactly where they are, your digging could cause severe damage, service disruption, or even an explosion! Prevention is the best solution. Before you dig, dial 800.227.2600.

In This Issue

- 1 Budget Development Fiscal Year 2007
Call Before You Dig
- 2 In the News . . .
 - Be the Solution to Ocean Pollution
 - Summer Block Parties • Long Beach Sea Festival
 - Hear Free Music at Long Beach Parks
 - Watch Free Movies at City Parks

LitterfreeLB Tip #2 ■ Water Department Rebates

IN THE NEWS...

Be the Solution to Ocean Pollution!

Top 10 Things You Can Do This Summer

1. Take an extra bag with you and carry out the trash from your beach or park picnic.
2. Gather your friends together and do a 15-minute beach or neighborhood cleanup.
3. Tell your friends and family to keep a litterbag in their car. It's not cool to litter.
4. Scoop up your pet's poop, bag it, tie it and dispose of it in a trash container.
5. Conserve water by limiting or shutting off your automatic lawn and garden sprinklers.
6. Wash your cars, boats, RVs and jet skis at a car wash.
7. Properly maintain your cars, boats, and RVs, and recycle the used oil.
8. Reduce, reuse, and recycle.
9. Put the fats, oils, or grease from your home cooked meals into a proper container and into the trash.
10. Enjoy yourself in the cleaner environment you've helped create!



Summer Block Parties

Throwing a summer block party? Residents must have a Block Party Permit so the Police and Fire Departments can know which streets are blocked off in the event of an emergency. Permits are issued on a first-come, first-served basis, and applications must be received at least ten days prior to the event date along with a non-refundable fee of \$85. Call 570.5333 for an application.

Summer Extravaganza Promises Fun For All! Long Beach Sea Festival

Long Beach is the summer destination for everyone. You don't want to miss the Long Beach Sea Festival with:

- **Boating events** featuring the Catalina Ski Race, the Mayor's Cup, the Dragon Boat Festival, and the Tall Ship and Wooden Boat Regatta.
- **Beachside events** featuring Moonlight Movies, Beach Volleyball Challenge, and the Great Sandcastle Contest.
- **Children's events** featuring the Kid's Fishing Rodeo and Kite Championship.



Call 426.7670 or visit www.SeaFestivalLongBeach.com.

Hear Free Music at Long Beach Parks

Enjoy a summer of free music concerts, including *The Joyful Sounds of Summer* with the Long Beach Municipal Band, from June 21 through September 13. For information on dates, locations and bands call 570.1743 or visit www.LBParks.org.

Watch Free Movies at City Parks

Free, family-oriented movies will be shown under the stars on a 29-foot inflatable screen at local parks from June 19 through September 1. For information on dates, locations and movie titles, call 570.3150 or visit www.LBParks.org.

For **information** during **citywide emergencies** in Long Beach, dial **570.5252**, tune your radio to KKJZ (**FM88.1**), watch LBTv Cable **Channel 8**, or log on to **www.longbeach.gov**.



litterfreeLB tip #2

Be less
accepting

From shopping bags and receipts to napkins and ketchup, only accept what you need.

Visit www.litterfreeLB.org to submit a litter-free tip.
Long Beach: we like it litter-free.

CITY OF LONG BEACH ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES BUREAU



Long Beach Water Department
The Standard in Water Conservation &
Environmental Stewardship



\$75 REBATE

Purchase any new toilet and receive a rebate for \$75. Certain restrictions apply; see application for details and program information. Download an application at www.lbwater.org or call 562.435.7744.

Purchase a new, approved High Efficiency Clothes Washer and receive a rebate for \$125. Certain restrictions apply; see application for details and program information.



\$125 REBATE

Download an application and a list of approved washers at www.lbwater.org or call 562.435.7744. Be sure the model you are interested in is an approved HECW before purchase!